

HARRIS  
COMICS



ASCENDING  
EVIL 1 OF 3



# VAMPARELLA



97  
PALMIOTTI





P R E S E N T S:

# ASCENDING EVIL

part one

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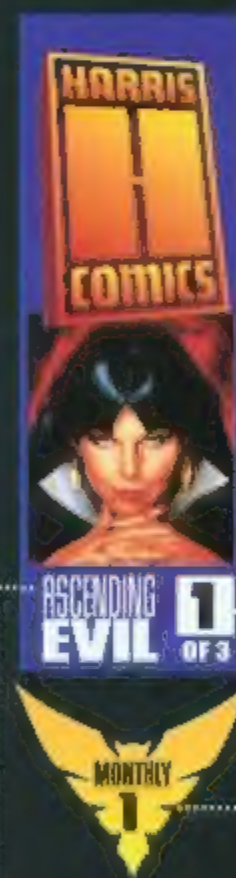
FILM OUTPUT

**Real-ographics**

## ABOUT OUR COVER

### VAMPIRELLA NUMBERING SYSTEM

For all you sticklers for mindless info, chronic complainers, trivial pursuitists, numerologists, and quantum theorists, here is a simple, easy-to-follow diagram detailing the new Vampirella Monthly numbering system. Since Vampirella will read in three or four issue story arcs, each monthly issue will have a story arc title and a corresponding number as well as the actual ongoing monthly #.



story arc  
issue #

# of issues  
in story arc

actual issue  
number of  
the monthly

story arc  
title

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## VAMPIRELLA: THE NEW MONTHLY

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SOMEWHERE:

UH, I DON'T  
MEAN TO SOUND  
LIKE A WIENER  
OR ANYTHING...

...BUT DON'T YOU THINK  
THIS SEEMS KINDA LIKE  
THE OPENING SCENE IN  
A BAD HORROR MOVIE?

I MEAN, TWO HOT  
TEENAGERS MAKING OUT IN  
A GRAVEYARD BEFORE  
MICHAEL F\*\*\*ING MYERS  
APPEARS AND CUTS THEM  
A SERIES OF NEW  
ORIFICES.

WILL YOU KEEP QUIET  
AND CONCENTRATE ON  
ME? DOING SOMETHING  
DIRTY IN A PLACE THIS  
QUIET REALLY GETS  
ME HORNY...

YEAH, BUT WHAT ABOUT  
ALL THE VAMPIRE RUMORS  
LATELY? ALL THOSE PEOPLE  
GOING MISSING?

DON'T YOU THINK WE'RE  
KINDA BEGGING TO BE THE  
NEXT COUPLE OF POLICE  
STATISTICS HERE?

HEY, WILL YOU  
RELAX?

VAMPIRES ARE JUST  
CYNICAL INVENTIONS BY  
TRASHY COMIC BOOK  
COMPANIES USED TO  
EXPLOIT AN ADOLESCENT  
OBSESSION WITH SEX  
AND DEATH.

I READ A  
BOOK ON THE  
SUBJECT  
ONCE...











MAKE THAT A TRIPLE.

READY WHEN YOU ARE, PADRE.

INDEED, VAMPIRELLA.

ahem

[illegible]

LORD, AS YOU ONCE CLEANSED THE EARTH BY FLOOD, PURIFY THIS WATER NOW WITH THE LIGHT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND WASH AWAY THESE ABOMINATIONS.

IN NOMINE PATRIS...

ET FILII...

"*< ET SPIRITO  
SANCTUS >  
AMEN! "*"

**AAAAA!**

**FSSSSS**

**FSSSSS**

**FSSSSS**

FSSSSS

FSSSS

**AAA**

THE RAIN!

HE'S CHANGED THE RAIN INTO HOLY WATER!

YOU CHEATING BITCH...



YOU  
CHEATING  
BITCH...

NOT CHEATING, GENERAL.

JUST TACTICS.

HNNNNN





BRILLIANT,  
MY DEAR.  
QUITE  
BRILLIANT.

HOWEVER, ONE PART  
OF THE PLAN HAD ME  
PUZZLED FROM THE START--  
HOW COULD YOU BE SURE  
YOU WERE IMMUNE FROM  
THE EFFECTS OF THE  
HOLY WATER?



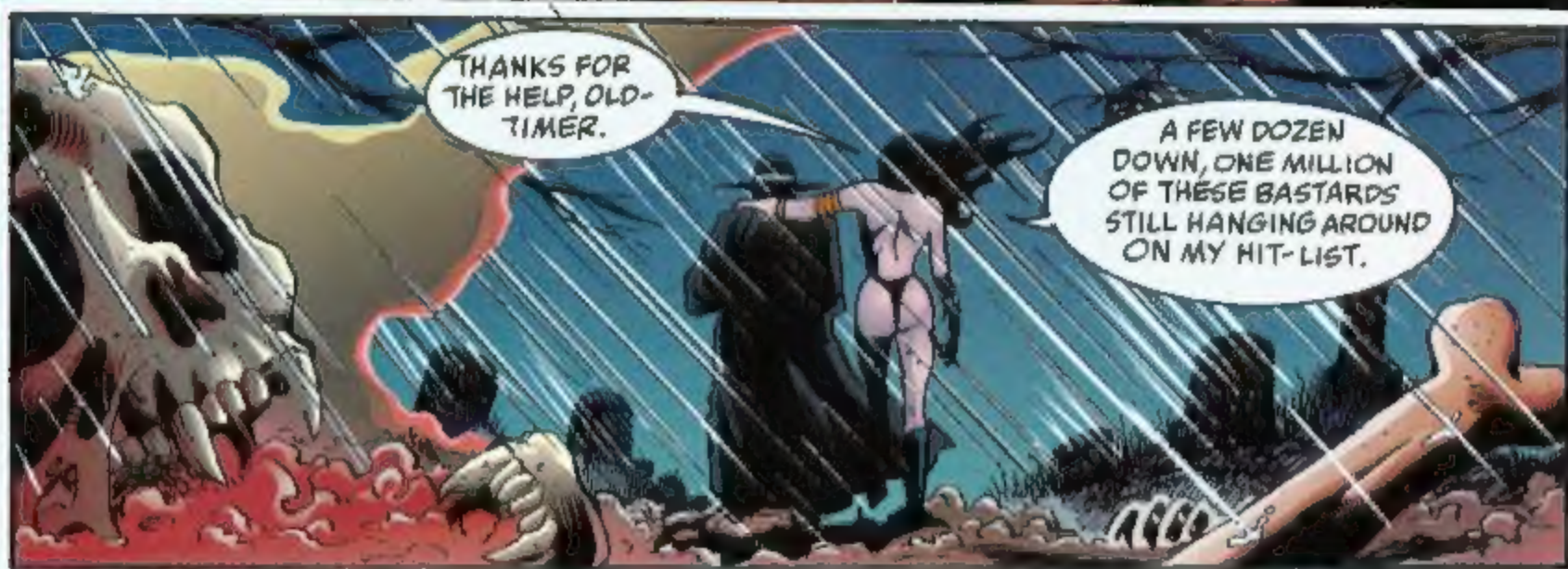
I MEAN, IF YOU'RE  
A VAMPIRE, TOO, WHY  
HAVEN'T YOU DISSOLVED  
IN THE RAIN LIKE THE  
OTHERS?

JUST ONE OF LIFE'S  
LITTLE MYSTERIES,  
I GUESS.



THANKS FOR  
THE HELP, OLD-  
TIMER.

A FEW DOZEN  
DOWN, ONE MILLION  
OF THESE BASTARDS  
STILL HANGING AROUND  
ON MY HIT-LIST.





MIDNIGHT IN  
NEW YORK:

"WE HAVE A NAME, MONSIGNOR  
PESARO. HER NAME IS VAMPIRELLA,  
AND DESPITE WHAT THIS EVIDENCE  
SUGGESTS, SHE IS NOT ONE OF  
US."



VAMPIRE-HUNTERS ARE  
NOTHING NEW. WE'VE HAD  
TROUBLE WITH THE OCCASIONAL  
VAN HELSING IN THE PAST, BUT  
THIS IS BECOMING QUITE  
SERIOUS.

FIRST SHE DESTROYED  
WHITECHAPEL AND STOPPED  
THE RESURRECTION OF THE  
ELDEST SON. \* NOW, ROME  
INFORMS US SHE'S DISRUPTED  
MUCH OF THEIR NORTH AMER-  
ICAN BUSINESS, AND WARNS  
US THAT SHE'S GUNNING FOR  
OUR NEW YORK OPERATION.

THIS  
MATTER MUST  
BE DEALT WITH  
QUICKLY.

\* VAMPIRELLA LIVES MINISERIES -- DAVE.



MY UNDERSTANDING OF THIS  
VAMPIRELLA WAS THAT SHE  
WAS NO MORE THAN A CIRCUS  
CLOWN, A SIDE-SHOW FREAK  
WHO SOLVED MYSTERIES IN  
HER SPARE TIME.

WHAT CAUSED SUCH  
A SMALL-TIME OPERATOR  
TO BECOME A THREAT  
TO THE ORDER, FATHER  
CALGI?

SAME OLD STORY,  
MONSIGNOR. SOMEONE  
KILLED HER AND SHE CAME  
BACK WITH A MORE  
DETERMINED ATTITUDE.

KILLED BEING A POOR  
CHOICE OF WORDS. PERHAPS  
TEMPORARY REMOVAL OF HER  
UNDEAD STATUS WOULD BE  
A MORE APPROPRIATE  
DESCRIPTION.






"GENTLEMEN, VAMPIRELLA  
HAS RISEN FROM THE GRAVE."







PICTURED HERE ON  
ETHEREAL-SENSITIVE FILM  
IS OUR OLD FRIEND *MISTRESS  
NYX*, WHO BLAMES HERSELF  
ENTIRELY FOR THE PRESENT  
SITUATION.

ALLIED WITH THE PSYCHO-  
KINETIC ASSASSIN HEMOR-  
RHAGE, *SHE* WAS THE ONE  
WHO MURDERED VAMPIRELLA  
AND SET HER ON AN ODYSSEY  
WHICH TOOK HER ALL THE  
WAY TO *HELL* AND  
BACK.

"HELL *CHANGED* VAMPIRELLA IN WAYS  
WE CAN'T IMAGINE. ALL WE KNOW FOR  
SURE IS THAT SHE RETURNED WITH A  
NEW ARSENAL AND A NEW MOTIVATION...

"NAMELY, THE SYSTEMATIC DESTRUCTION OF  
EVERY VAMPIRE SHE COULD FIND WHILE SHE  
SEARCHES FOR *MISTRESS NYX*."

NATURALLY.

ANYTHING  
ELSE WE SHOULD  
KNOW?

"HER FORMER EXECUTIONER,  
OF COURSE, WENT INTO  
HIDING."

ONLY THAT SHE'S  
KILLING EVEN MORE  
OF OUR PEOPLE ON A  
WEEKLY BASIS THAN  
THE HEPATITIS EPIDEMIC  
WE HAD TO DEAL WITH  
A FEW YEARS AGO.

CASE IN  
POINT...



"THIS FOOTAGE WAS TAKEN BY SECURITY CAMERAS IN THE BROOKLYN DISTRICT WE SECURED LAST YEAR.

"THE MOB SURRENDERED, THE POLICE LEFT US ALONE, THE WHOLE OPERATION WAS RUNNING PERFECTLY UNTIL SOME LUNATIC APPEARED WITH A FLAME-THROWER.

"REMEMBER, THIS WAS AN AREA POPULATED ALMOST ENTIRELY BY VAMPIRES. A PLACE WHERE THEY COULD BE SAFE WHILE THEY OPERATED IN OTHER DISTRICTS.

'NOBODY EXPECTED TROUBLE

"BUT TROUBLE CAME

"HOW MANY TIMES HAVE WE BEEN HERE BEFORE? A VICTIM'S FRIEND OR FAMILY TRACKS US DOWN, ARMED WITH THEIR FATHER'S OLD SERVICE REVOLVER OR A COUPLE OF TRUSTY FORTY-FIVES.

"WE'VE STOOD ON THE WRONG SIDE OF A GUN A THOUSAND TIMES OVER THE CENTURIES. IT'S HARDLY SURPRISING OUR PEOPLE REACTED THE WAY THEY DID."





POOR SONS OF BITCHES

GARLIC HOLY WATER  
RELIGIOUS ICONOGRAPHY

HUMANS HAVE TRADITIONALLY  
USED THESE WEAPONS AGAINST  
US FOR CENTURIES

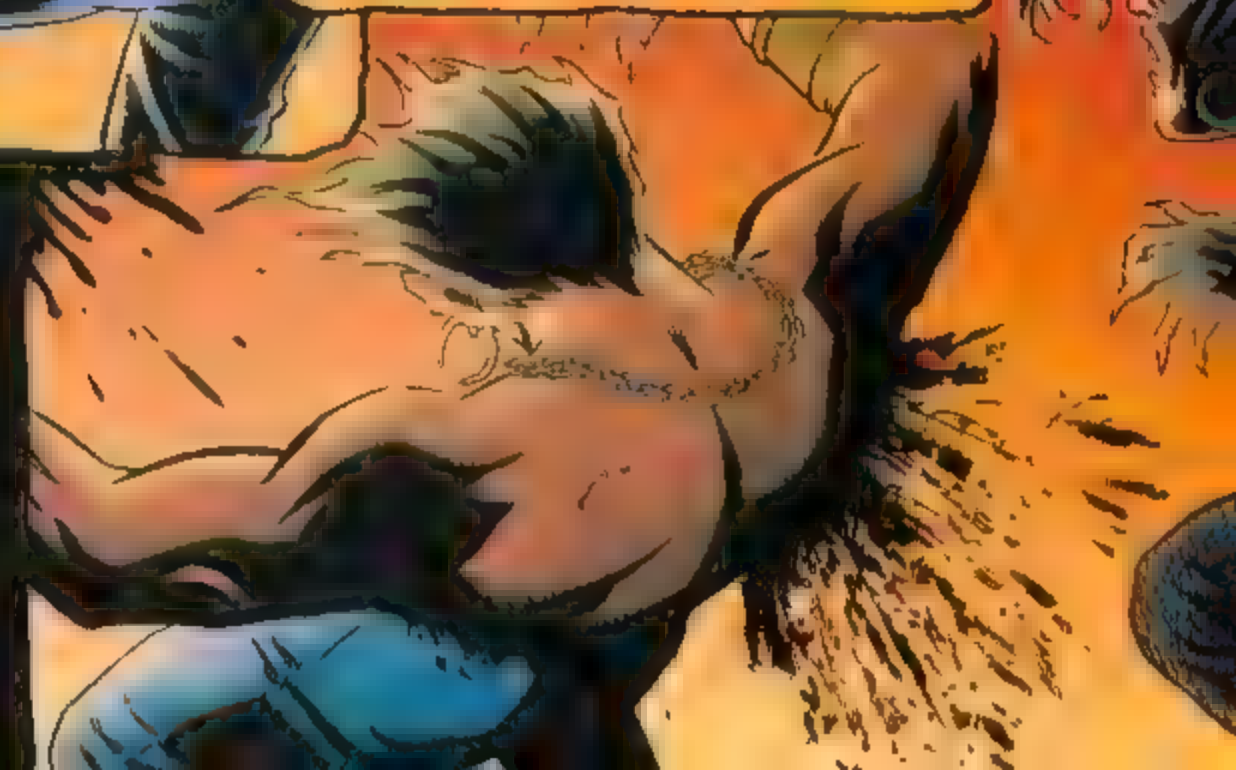
"NOT BULLETS..."



"IT WAS ONLY AFTER WE WATCHED THE FILM  
SEVERAL TIMES, WE REALIZED WHAT SHE'D  
DONE."



"LITTLE CROSSES CARVED ON THE HEADS  
OF THE SHELLS FIRED STRAIGHT INTO THE  
HEARTS AND FACES OF HUNDREDS OF VAMPIRES"






"THE EFFECTS WERE  
DEVASTATING."




"LIGHTS  
UP"





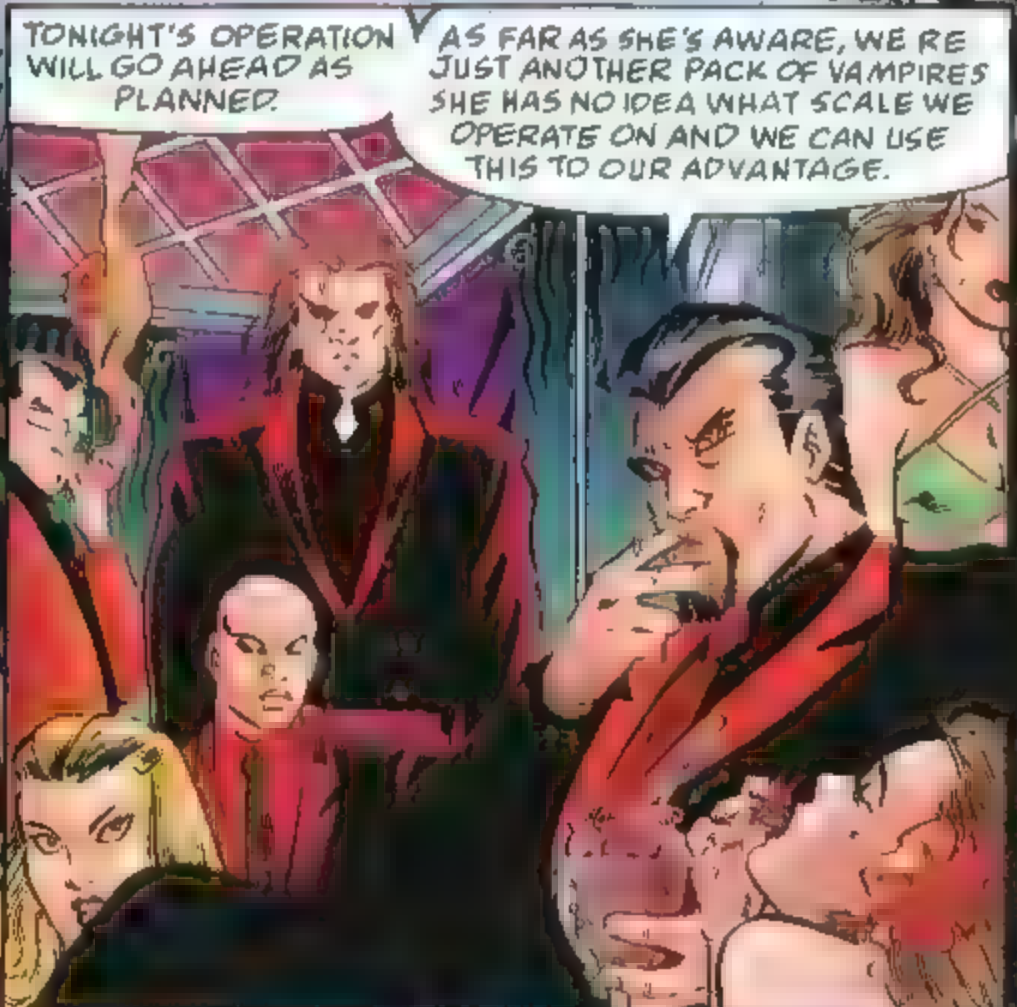
WOODEN STAKES FIRED  
FROM CROSS-BOWS, CRUCIFIXES  
PAINTED ON GRAVESTONES, IT  
SEEMS HER IMAGINATION IS  
MATCHED ONLY BY HER  
PASSION FOR KILLING

SHE'S FAST, SHE'S STRONG,  
SHE CAN DO EVERYTHING WE  
CAN DO, BUT SEEMS UNAF-  
FECTED BY ALL OF OUR  
WEAKNESSES



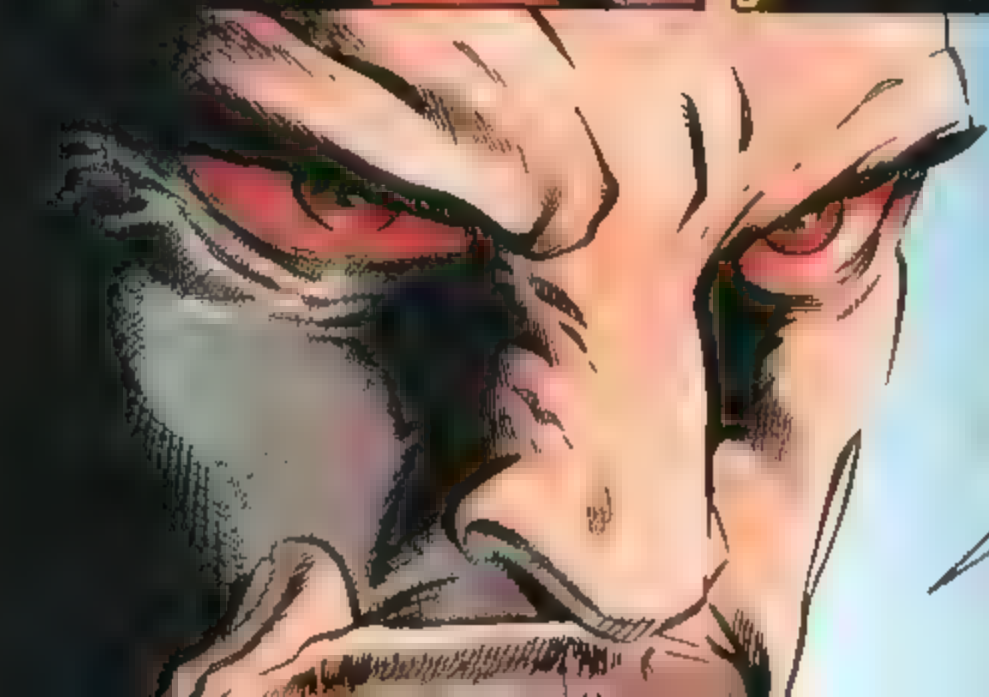
SEIZING CONTROL OF  
ORGANIZED CRIME IN NEW  
YORK WAS ALREADY A  
DELICATE OPERATION,  
MONSIGNOR

PERHAPS TONIGHT'S  
ASSAULT SHOULD BE  
POSTPONED



TONIGHT'S OPERATION  
WILL GO AHEAD AS  
PLANNED.

AS FAR AS SHE'S AWARE, WE'RE  
JUST ANOTHER PACK OF VAMPIRES  
SHE HAS NO IDEA WHAT SCALE WE  
OPERATE ON AND WE CAN USE  
THIS TO OUR ADVANTAGE.



CALL VON  
KREIST.

TELL HIM  
EVERYTHING  
YOU'VE TOLD  
ME

HE'LL MAKE SURE SHE  
DOESN'T GET IN THE WAY  
WHEN WE MAKE A MOVE  
ON DON FATTONI TONIGHT



DON FATTONI

I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU FOR THIS, DAD.

HAVE YOU ANY IDEA HOW EMBARRASSED WE WERE BEING MARCHED OUT OF BALLET CLASS AT GUN-POINT BY A COUPLE OF HIRED THUGS?

HEY YOU KNOW I WOULDN'T HURT MY BABY GIRLS FOR THE WORLD. I JUST HAD TO BE SURE YOU WERE SAFE INDOORS WHEN THE SUN WENT DOWN, THAT'S ALL

ONE OF THE BOYS HEARD A RUMOR THE OTHER SIDE WAS MAKING A PLAY FOR MY TERRITORY TONIGHT.

DAD, YOU HEAR THAT RUMOR EVERY DAY? DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE BEING A LITTLE PARANOID?

PIXIE, PIXIE... I'M THE HEAD OF ONE OF THE OLDEST AND MOST INFLUENTIAL FAMILIES ON THE EAST COAST.

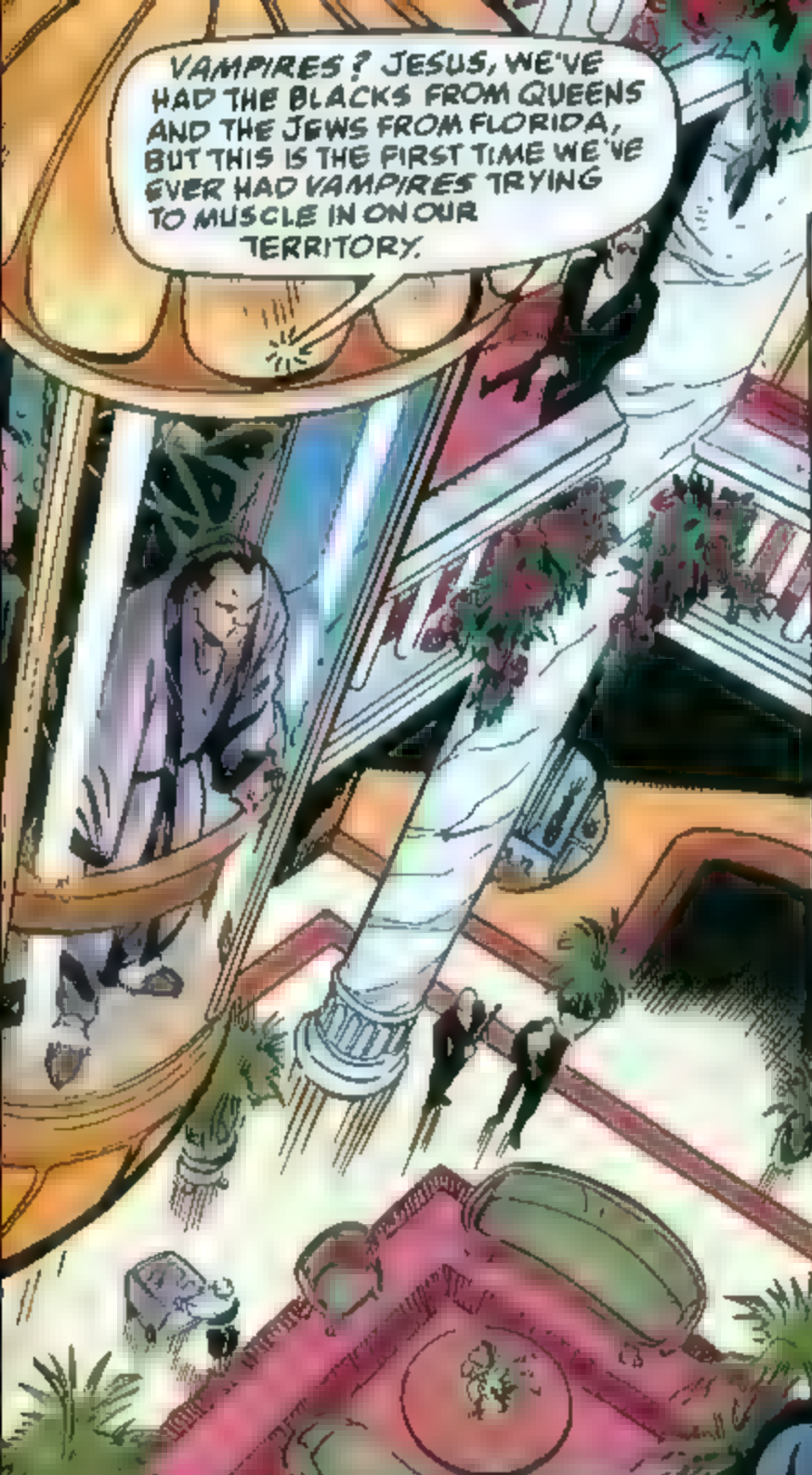
THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WORK FOR ME. MILLIONS ARE AFFECTED BY MY DECISIONS. BILLIONS OF DOLLARS ARE GENERATED UNDER MY SUPERVISION..

...ONE CAN NEVER BE TOO PARANOID.


I TOLD YOU, PIXIE.

LEAVE OFF HIM. I'M SERIOUS.






VAMPIRES? JESUS, WE'VE HAD THE BLACKS FROM QUEENS AND THE JEWS FROM FLORIDA, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE'VE EVER HAD VAMPIRES TRYING TO MUSCLE IN ON OUR TERRITORY.



BASTARDS SEEM TO BE POPPING OUT OF THE WOODWORK EVERYWHERE AND NO ONE'S SURE WHERE THEY CAME FROM OR HOW THEY GOT ORGANIZED.

WELL, IF IT'S ANY CONSOLATION, WE'RE NOT ALONE, MORENO. CHICAGO, DETROIT, VEGAS AND TEXAS ARE BEING LEANED ON BY THESE SONS OF BITCHES.

PING



OUR FRIENDS IN EUROPE RECKON THEY'RE ALREADY AS BIG AS WE ARE. SOME ARE EVEN SAYING THEY'RE CONNECTED TO THE VATICAN IN SOME WAY.

MAYBE OUR FRIEND HERE CAN SHED A LITTLE LIGHT ON WHAT THEY'RE UP TO, HUH?



YOU HEARD THE MAN, BITCH.

START TALKING.

MEN AND WOMEN  
MARS  
Woman  
Mars  
Mars





GET ME  
OUT OF THESE  
CHAINS.

YOU MORONS  
JUST CAPTURED THE  
ONE PERSON WHO  
MIGHT BE ABLE TO  
KEEP YOU ALIVE HERE

IS THAT  
A FACT?

BOYS, IT SOUNDS  
LIKE WE FOUND OURSELVES  
A GOOD VAMPIRE HERE  
YOU KNOW, LIKE THE GOOD  
ADOLF HITLER WE MET  
YESTERDAY AND THE GOOD  
JEFFREY DAHMER WE  
DISCOVERED THE DAY  
BEFORE.

SHAAAKT

JUST ANSWER ONE QUESTION  
BEFORE WE LOSE OUR PATIENCE,  
SWEETHEART. WHAT WAS YOUR  
EVIL, LITTLE ASS DOING HANG-  
ING AROUND OUTSIDE MY  
HOTEL?

WHAT'S  
WRONG  
WITH YOU  
PEOPLE?

WHY DON'T YOU  
UNDERSTAND?

SNIK





SOMETIMES I DON'T  
KNOW WHY I BOTHER!

CHUKKT

I ONLY CAME  
HERE TO  
HELP!

AAAAA!  
GET HER  
OFF!

SHOOT  
HER! SOME-  
BODY SHOOT  
HER!

OKAY,  
RELAX...

MORENO'S  
ON THE CASE.

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

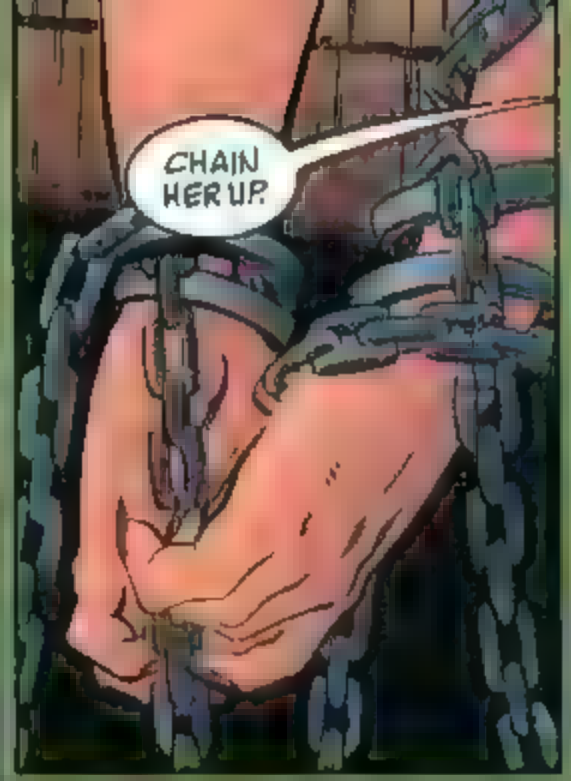
JESUS CHRIST!  
N-NICE WORK,  
MORENO.

NOW GET THIS PLACE  
CLEANED UP AND GET RID  
OF THIS THING BEFORE  
IT REGAINS CONSCIOUS-  
NESS AGAIN.

I'M  
GOING UP-  
STAIRS TO  
LOOK AFTER  
THE GIRLS

NO PROBLEM,  
DON FATTONI.

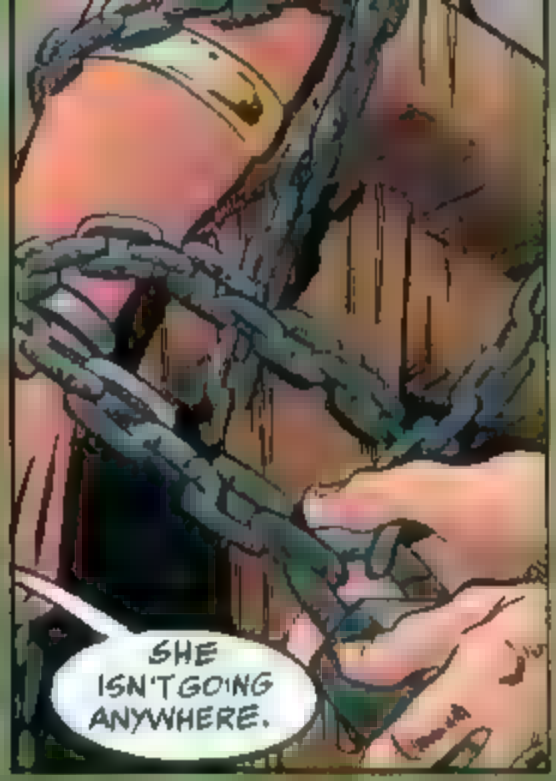




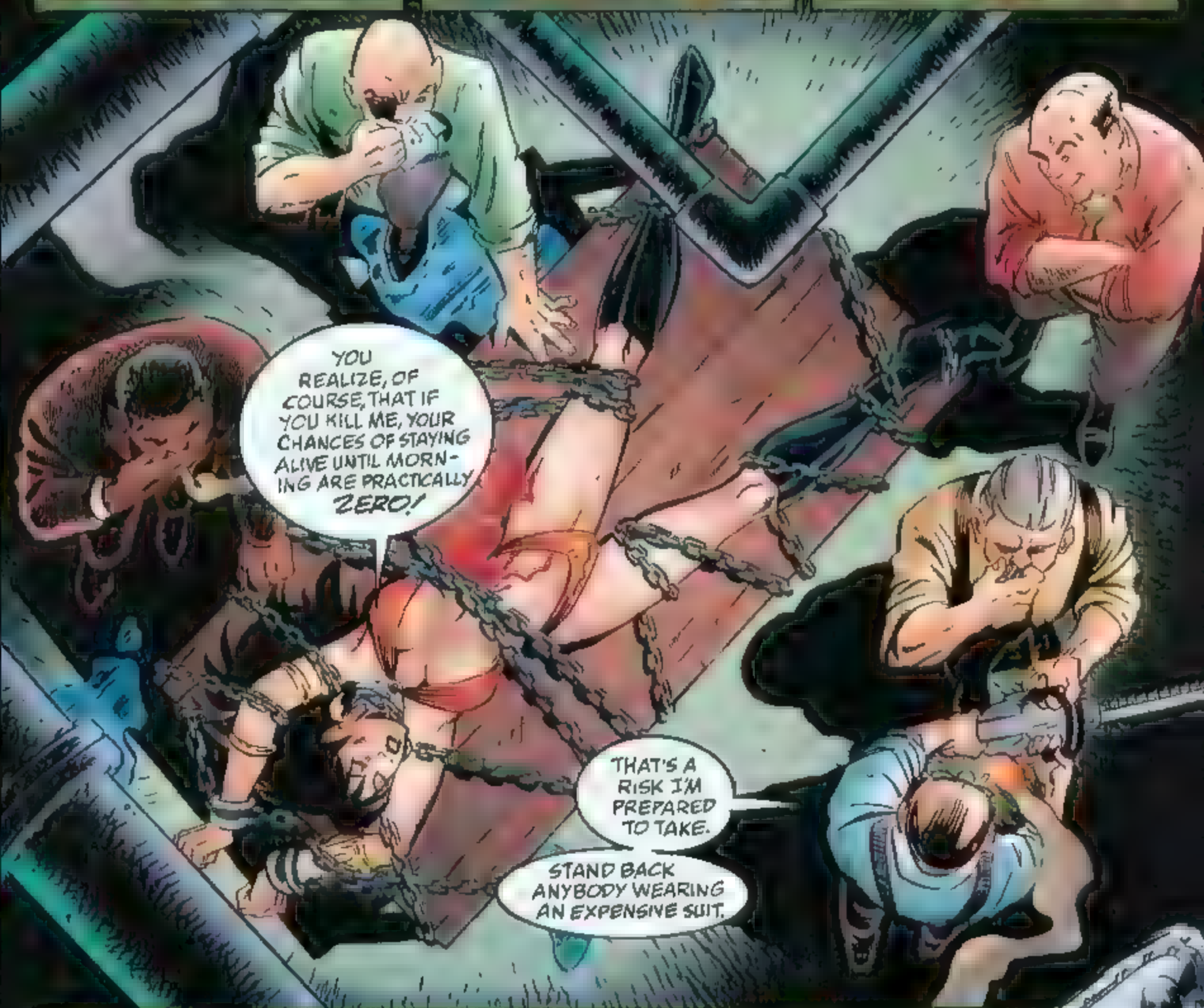
CHAIN  
HER UP.



THAT'S IT.  
NICE AND  
TIGHT.



SHE  
ISN'T GOING  
ANYWHERE.



YOU  
REALIZE, OF  
COURSE, THAT IF  
YOU KILL ME, YOUR  
CHANCES OF STAYING  
ALIVE UNTIL MORN-  
ING ARE PRACTICALLY  
**ZERO!**

THAT'S A  
RISK I'M  
PREPARED  
TO TAKE.

STAND BACK  
ANYBODY WEARING  
AN EXPENSIVE SUIT.

HERE'S WHAT HAPPENS  
TO ANY GODDAMN  
VAMPIRE TAKES A  
CHUNK OUTTA  
DON FATTONI.

**THRRAKT**

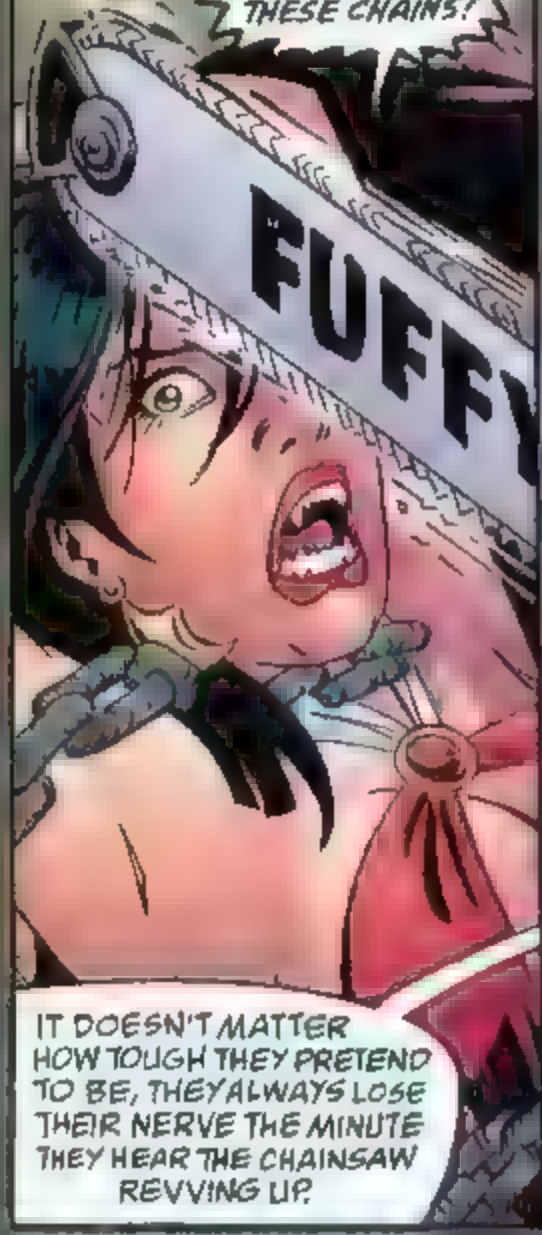
**BBZZ**

**FUFFY**

**ZZZZ**



SATYR AND CIRCE, NO!  
SOMEBODY  
GET ME OUT OF  
THESE CHAINS!



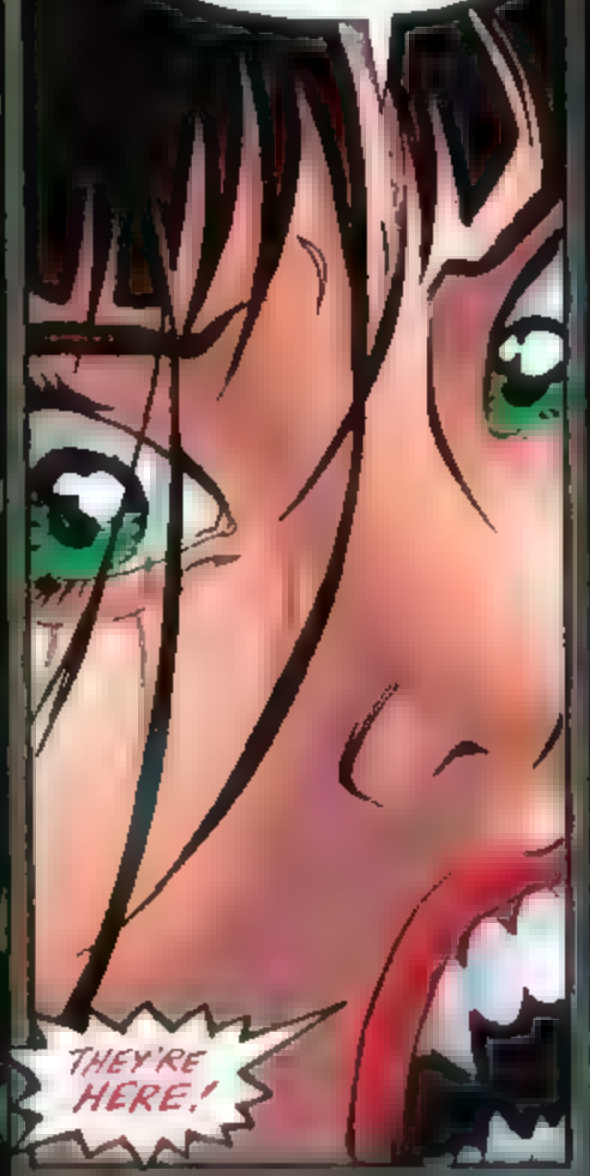
IT DOESN'T MATTER  
HOW TOUGH THEY PRETEND  
TO BE, THEY ALWAYS LOSE  
THEIR NERVE THE MINUTE  
THEY HEAR THE CHAINSAW  
REVVING UP.

HOLD  
HER  
STEADY.



I'M NOT  
SCREAMING  
ABOUT YOU,  
GREASEBALL...

...I'M SCREAMING  
ABOUT THEM!  
THE BUILDING'S  
UNDER ATTACK!



THEY'RE  
HERE!



-- JESUS!











THRUUKKT!

GOOD  
GOD!

VON KREIST.

PLEASED  
TO MEET YOU,  
DON FATTONI.

YOU CAN'T COME  
IN HERE!

LOOK  
AT THE  
WALLS!

OH, WHAT A BEAUTIFUL  
COLLECTION OF CRUCIFIXES  
ALL QUITE HARMLESS, OF  
COURSE, CONSIDERING THESE  
THREE VAMPIRES ARE  
BLIND AS BATS.

OW!

HEY,  
LEGGO!

ME? I'M  
NOT EVEN A  
VAMPIRE.

I'M NOT  
HERE TO  
BARGAIN  
WITH YOU  
EITHER.

WE ALREADY TRIED TO  
NEGOTIATE TERRITORY IN  
THE PAST AND YOU WOULD  
NOT EVEN SPEAK TO US.

I'M JUST HERE TO  
KILL YOU, DON FATTONI,  
AS AN EXAMPLE TO ALL  
THE OTHER NORTH AMER-  
ICAN FAMILIES WHO WON'T  
COMPLY WITH OUR PLANS.

I'M THE MAN YOUR ENEMIES  
SENT TO MAKE YOUR LAST FEW  
MOMENTS A LIVING HELL.





SOPHIE'S CHOICE?

I DON'T SEE WHY NOT.



WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

SOPHIE'S CHOICE. YOU MUST HAVE SEEN THE MOVIE -- MERYL STREEP'S KIDS ARE SENTENCED TO DEATH BUT SHE'S OFFERED A CHANCE TO SAVE HER FAVORITE.



THE MORAL DILEMMA HERE IS "WHO'S THE FAVORITE?"

PIXIE OR DIXIE?



TEN SECONDS, DON FATTONI! MAKE YOUR MIND UP OR BOTH YOUR PRECIOUS DAUGHTERS BITE THE BULLET.

YOU SICK BASTARD!



PIXIE.

THE ONE WITH HER MOTHER'S HAIR.

SAVE PIXIE.



**BLAM!**

**NO!**

YOU SHOT  
THE WRONG  
ONE!

I  
KNOW.

THIS WAY THE PARENT LOSES  
HIS FAVORITE CHILD WHILE THE  
SURVIVOR LIVES WITH THE KNOW-  
LEDGE DEAR DADDY GAVE THEM  
A DEATH SENTENCE.

MUCH MORE  
INTERESTING.

YOU  
BASTARD.

YOU  
SICK,  
EVIL  
BASTARD...

OH, COME ON,  
DON FATTONI.

WE HAVEN'T  
EVEN *STARTED*  
YET.



**DOWNSTAIRS:**

ANY LAST WORDS YOU'D  
BETTER MAKE THEM QUICK  
BECAUSE WE'RE READY FOR  
DESSERT NOW, HONEY BUNS.

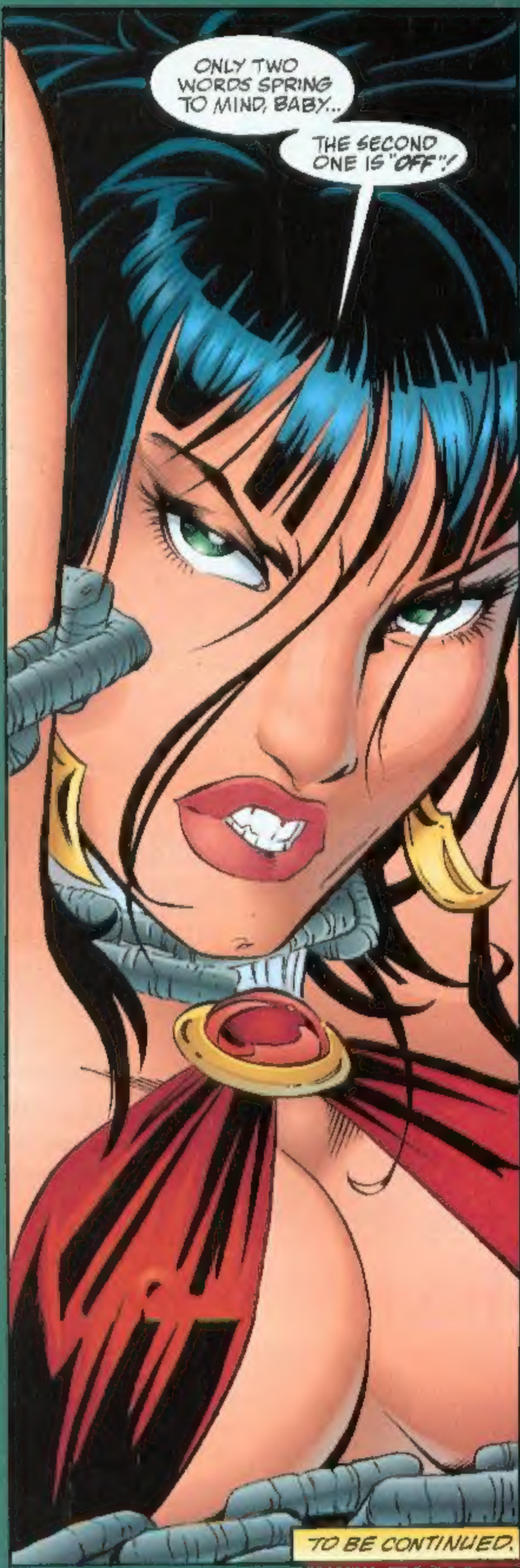
THAT'S  
WHAT YOU  
ARE NOW,  
HONEY.

JUST  
DESSERT.



ONLY TWO  
WORDS SPRING  
TO MIND, BABY...

THE SECOND  
ONE IS "OFF"!



**TO BE CONTINUED.**





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